

# **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Implementation for Local Public Agency Projects**

APWA Spring Conference  
March 13, 2009

M.J. "Charlie" Purcell  
Director, Office of Local Systems  
Iowa Department of Transportation



1

## **Presentation Overview**

- Planning and Programming
- Eligibility Questions
- Project Development Issues
- Reporting



2

## Planning and Programming



- Planning agencies should have approved Recovery projects in the their TIPs and forwarded them for inclusion in the STIP
- STIP amendments / modifications are occurring now
- Double check the programming of your Recovery projects!
  - All sources of funding included
  - Funding amounts are correct
  - Project descriptions are correct

3

## Project Eligibility



- All projects or activities eligible under the Surface Transportation Program (STP):
  - New construction or reconstruction
  - Resurfacing, Restoration, and Rehabilitation (3R)
  - Bridges on any public road
  - Transportation enhancement activities
  - ADA improvements
  - Safety projects
  - Other projects or activities, as specified in Section 133(b) of Title 23, United States Code

4

## Project Eligibility



- Projects on local roads or rural minor collectors are not eligible, except:
  - Roads that were on the Federal-aid system on Jan 1, 1991
  - Bridges on any public road
  - Bicycle and pedestrian walkways
  - ADA improvements
  - Enhancement activities
  - Safety projects
- TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU allowance for up to 15% of STP funds in rural areas on minor collectors is not applicable to Recovery funds

5

## Project Eligibility



- Preventative Maintenance
  - May be eligible, if shown to be a cost-effective treatment for extending the useful life of the facility
    - Patching (partial or full depth)
    - Seal coats / chip sealing
    - Crack sealing / joint repairs
    - Other
  - Special review and approval required by Iowa DOT and FHWA

6

## April 21 2009 Letting



- All clearances should have been obtained by now, except the project funding agreement
- If any “alternate” projects were submitted but not finally approved for Recovery funds, other funds must be identified or they will be withdrawn
- If funding changes require plan changes, the project will be rescheduled to May or June

7

## Special April 28 Letting



- Regular April letting being split to increase competition and opportunities for DBE firms
- Office of Contracts will decide which projects will be moved to the special letting
- Options for projects in the regular April letting
  1. Volunteer for the special letting
  2. Request to remain in the regular letting
  3. Do nothing

8

## Project Funding Agreement



- You should get one soon (check your e-mail)
- Must be executed and delivered to the DOT:
  - by April 7 for projects in the April 21 letting
  - by April 14 for projects in the April 28 letting
- May need to schedule a special council meeting to approve
- Reimbursement will be limited to 100% of eligible costs or the STIP amount, whichever is less
- Includes “use it or lose it” and other special requirements

9

## Use it or lose it provisions



- Local agencies exempt from 120 day redistribution of first 50%
- All funds provided to the State of Iowa, including local agencies, must be obligated by Mar 2, 2010
  - Any funds not obligated will be redistributed to other States
  - Other States will have until Sep 30, 2010 to obligate any remaining funds

10

## Use it or lose it provisions



- Local agency projects must be let for bids no later than Jan 20, 2010
  - Allows time to confirm contract awards
  - DOT will obligate any leftovers to prevent Iowa from losing any Recovery funds
  - Extensions may be granted on a case-by-case basis
- Once obligated, all funds must be expended by Sep 30, 2015
  - After this date, no more reimbursements can be made

11

## Contracting Requirements



- Davis-Bacon wage rates will apply to all projects, regardless of location
- All projects must be let through the Iowa DOT, even enhancement eligible projects
- All other Federal-aid requirements still apply:
  - Buy America
  - Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE)
  - Others

12

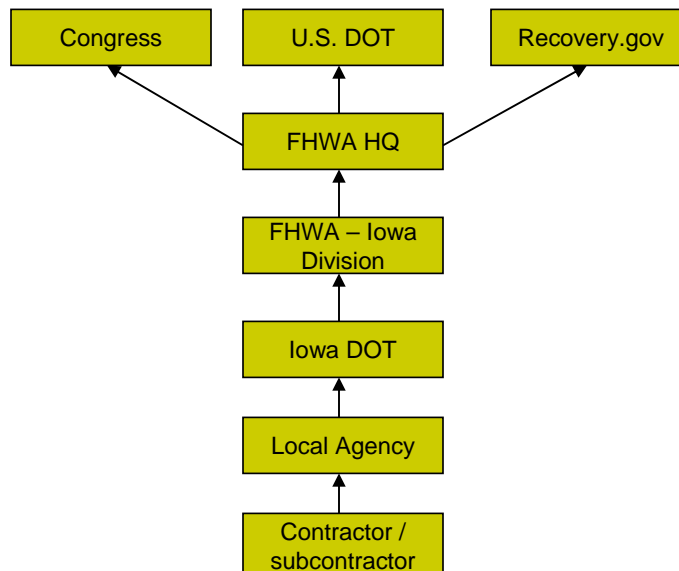
## Job Reporting Requirements



- Jobs created or sustained
  - Contractors and subcontractors will be required to report on each project
  - Iowa DOT will provide standardized forms, instructions and specifications with bid documents
  - Contractors will submit forms to local agencies
  - Local agencies will forward forms to Iowa DOT
  - Iowa DOT will compile and forward a summary report to FHWA

13

## Reporting Information Flow



14

## Additional Information



- Iowa DOT web site  
[www.iowadot.gov/recovery/index.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/recovery/index.htm)
  - Summary of Recovery Act
  - Lists of projects
  - Iowa DOT guidance memos
  - Links to additional resources
- FHWA web site  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/economicrecovery/index.htm)

15

## Questions?



16